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## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

**24-HOUR REPORT****22 DECEMBER 2017**

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**(U) CALIFORNIA****(U) Fresno – Manhunt Under Way After Random Shootings Targeted 10 Drivers**

(U) Police in California's Central Valley have launched a manhunt for at least one suspect after a series of 10 random shootings on vehicles left one woman wounded this holiday season. Fresno County Sheriff Margaret Mims warned the shooting attacks, which have occurred in her jurisdiction and neighboring Madera County, could turn deadly. Witnesses described the suspect's vehicle as a dark colored pick-up truck with oversized tires. The motive for the shootings is unknown.

SOURCE: 21 December 2017, [Reuters](#)

**(U) Oakland – Man Charged in Mail Bomb Plot**

(U) An Oakland man was charged with mailing an explosive device to an East Palo Alto man with intent to injure or kill. Ross Laverty was in federal custody after a court appearance in San Francisco. SWAT teams and other authorities swarmed Laverty's Oakland home on 20 December and arrested him. As part of an investigation involving the United States Postal Inspection Service, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the FBI, at least one count was filed in connection with an East Palo Alto incident where a resident received a package containing an explosive device. If convicted on that count, Laverty faces a maximum of 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

SOURCE: 22 December 2017, [The Mercury News](#)

**(U) NATIONAL****(U) Illinois – Police Say Facebook 'Secret Group' Traffic in Guns and Drugs**

(U) Chicago – Chicago police arrested 50 people suspected of using "secret groups" on Facebook to deal in guns and drugs, and have teamed up with the world's largest social media network to crack down on criminal trafficking online. Announcing the arrests at a news conference, Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson initially criticized Facebook as being unhelpful during a 10-month investigation by his department. However, police later said the department and the California-based company agreed to work collaboratively "to target any illegal activity on the platform." Police did not detail charges facing the 50 men and women arrested through yesterday, but said there were "dozens and dozens" of private Facebook groups being used for illegal drug and weapons transactions. Arrest warrants for 18 more suspects have been signed, and most have prior criminal histories.

SOURCE: 21 December 2017, [Reuters](#)

**(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) Denmark – Police Arrest Man for Planning Terror Attack**

(U) Copenhagen – Danish police arrested a 30-year-old man who planned to carry out an attack in Copenhagen using knives and explosives. The man, who was not named, was a 30-year-old Syrian national known to Swedish intelligence as dangerous for his sympathies with the Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS). Police confirmed the arrest yesterday but declined to elaborate, citing an ongoing

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pre-trial custody hearing. A local tabloid said the arrested man likely was an accomplice of a Syrian refugee who in July was sentenced to 6.5 years in prison in Germany for planning a terror attack in Denmark.

SOURCE: 22 December 2017, [The Washington Post](#)

**(U) Greece – Bomb Explodes Outside Greek Court; No Casualties**

(U) Athens – A bomb exploded today outside one of Greece's main courthouses, officials said, but police had cleared the area and nobody was hurt. The explosion occurred outside the Athens appeals court after calls warning of a bomb had been made to the media. A police source told AFP that the device was a "powerful timer bomb," similar to bombs used frequently by Greek far-left groups in the past. A caller gave police 40 minutes to clear the area, just a short distance from Athens police headquarters. According to a court guard, the bomb was inside a bag left by two men who fled on a motorbike. There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

SOURCE: 22 December 2017, [AFP](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

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